



Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2022-0105]

Cooperative Research and Development Agreement – Evaluation of Teledyne FLIR

SF280HDEP

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces its intent to enter into a cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) to evaluate and potentially modify target classification technology used in conjunction with electro-optical/infra-red (EO/IR) systems. The Coast Guard is currently considering partnering with Teledyne FLIR, Inc. and solicits public comment on the possible participation of other parties in the proposed CRADA, and the nature of that participation. The Coast Guard also invites other potential non-Federal participants, who have the interest and capability to bring similar contributions to this type of research, to consider submitting proposals for consideration in similar CRADAs.

DATES: Comments must reach the Coast Guard on or before [INSERT 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.]. Synopses of proposals regarding future CRADAs must also reach the Coast Guard on or before [INSERT 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER.].

ADDRESSES: Submit comments online at <http://www.regulations.gov> following website instructions. Submit synopses of proposals regarding future CRADAs to Mr. Jay Carey at his address listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this notice or wish to submit proposals for future CRADAs, contact Mr. Jay Carey, Project Official, Aviation Branch, U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center, 1 Chelsea Street, New London, CT 06320, telephone 860-271-2600, e-mail RDC-info@uscg.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Participation and Request for Comments

We request public comments on this notice. Although we do not plan to publish responses to comments in the *Federal Register*, we will respond directly to commenters and may modify our proposal in light of comments.

Comments should be marked with docket number USCG-2022-0105 and should provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You should provide personal contact information so that we can contact you if we have questions regarding your comments; but please note that all comments will be posted to the online docket without change and that any personal information you include can be searchable online. For more about privacy and the docket, visit <http://www.regulations.gov/privacyNotice>. We do accept anonymous comments.

We encourage you to submit comments through the Federal Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. If your material cannot be submitted using <http://www.regulations.gov>, contact the Coast Guard (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT). Documents mentioned in this notice and all public comments, will be in our online docket at <http://www.regulations.gov> and can be viewed by following that website's instructions. Additionally, if you go to the online docket and sign up for email alerts, you will be notified when comments are posted.

Do not submit detailed proposals for future CRADAs to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Instead, submit them directly to the Coast Guard (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

Discussion

CRADAs are authorized under 15 U.S.C. 3710(a).¹ A CRADA promotes the transfer of technology to the private sector for commercial use, as well as specified research or development

¹ The statute confers this authority on the head of each Federal agency. The Secretary of DHS's authority is delegated to the Coast Guard and other DHS organizational elements by DHS Delegation No. 0160.1, para. II.B.34.

efforts that are consistent with the mission of the Federal parties to the CRADA. The Federal party or parties agree with one or more non-Federal parties to share research resources, but the Federal party does not contribute funding.

CRADAs are not procurement contracts. Care is taken to ensure that CRADAs are not used to circumvent the contracting process. CRADAs have a specific purpose and should not be confused with procurement contracts, grants, and other type of agreements.

Under the proposed CRADA, the Coast Guard's Research and Development Center (R&DC) will collaborate with one or more non-Federal participants. Together, the R&DC and the non-Federal participants will identify the capabilities, benefits, risks, and technical limitations of enhancing the SF280HD-EP to operate in support of USCG missions.

We anticipate that the Coast Guard's contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

(1) In conjunction with the non-Federal participant(s), assist in developing the evaluation test plan to be executed under the CRADA;

(2) Provide the small unmanned aircraft system (SUAS) test range, test range support, facilities, and all approvals required for SUAS operation under the CRADA;

(3) Provide airborne targets, operators, and associated equipment necessary to conduct the evaluation test plan;

(4) Coordinate and receive any Unmanned Flight Clearance (UFC) for the evaluations to be executed under this CRADA, as required, to include: Privacy Threshold Analysis, Privacy Impact Assessment, Spectrum Approval with the Office of Information Assurance and Spectrum Policy (CG-65), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Local Range spectrum de-confliction/authorization entities

(5) Collaboratively collect and analyze evaluation test plan data; and

(6) Collaboratively develop a final report documenting the methodologies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations of this CRADA work.

We anticipate that the non-Federal participants' contributions under the proposed CRADA will include the following:

- (1) Provide SF280HDEP system and all other equipment to conduct the evaluation described in test plan;
- (2) Provide all required operators and technicians to conduct the evaluation;
- (3) Provide shipment and delivery of all equipment required for the evaluation; and
- (4) Provide own travel, personnel, and other expenses as required.
- (5) Collaboratively collect and analyze evaluation test plan data; and
- (6) Collaboratively develop a final report documenting the methodologies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations of this CRADA work.

The Coast Guard reserves the right to select for CRADA participants all, some, or no proposals submitted for this CRADA. The Coast Guard will provide no funding for reimbursement of proposal development costs. Proposals and any other material submitted in response to this notice will not be returned. Proposals submitted are expected to be unclassified and have no more than five single-sided pages (excluding cover page, DD 1494, JF-12, etc.). The Coast Guard will select proposals at its sole discretion on the basis of:

- (1) How well they communicate an understanding of, and ability to meet, the proposed CRADA's goal; and
- (2) How well they address the following criteria:
 - (a) Technical capability to support the non-Federal party contributions described; and
 - (b) Resources available for supporting the non-Federal party contributions described.

Currently, the Coast Guard is considering Teledyne FLIR, Inc. for participation in this CRADA, because they have a solution in place for providing EO/IR target auto classification. However, we do not wish to exclude other viable participants from this or future similar CRADAs.

The goal of this CRADA is to evaluate the potential of modifying EO/IR target auto classification technology. Special consideration will be given to small business firms/consortia, and preference will be given to business units located in the U.S.

This notice is issued under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 15 U.S.C. 3710(a).

Dated: Feb 16, 2022.

Captain Daniel P. Keane,
USCG, Commanding Officer,
U.S. Coast Guard Research and Development Center.

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